

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

18 MAR 1993

THE SECRETARY - ROOM 222

IN REPLY REFER TO:

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

7330-7/1700A3

Honorable J. Bennett Johnston  
United States Senator  
Suite 1010 Hale Boggs  
Federal Building  
501 Magazine Street  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70130

RECEIVED

MAR 24 1993

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Dear Senator Johnston:

This is in reply to your letters of February 10, 1993, in which you inquired on behalf of several of your constituents regarding the Notice of Proposed Rule Making (Notice) in PR Docket No. 92-235, 57 FR 54034 (1992). This Notice proposes comprehensive changes to the Commission's Rules governing the private land mobile radio services operating in the frequency bands below 512 MHz.

Your constituents are specifically concerned about the impact of these changes

# Congressional

DLG 83-10-93

PLEASE MAKE 2 EXTRA COPIES OF INCOMING, ATTACHMENTS,  
AND REPLY FOR DOCKET FILE. ROOM 222.

J. BENNETT JOHNSTON  
LOUISIANA

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1802

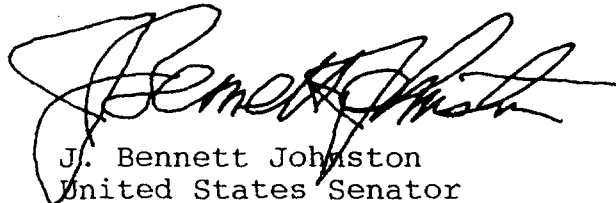
PRB  
92-235  
976

February 10, 1993

Federal Communications Commission  
Legislative Affairs  
1919 M Street N.W.  
Room 808  
Washington, DC 20554

Because of the desire of this office to be responsive to all inquiries and communications, your consideration of the attached is requested. Your findings and views, in duplicate form, along with return of the enclosure, will be appreciated.

Sincerely,



J. Bennett Johnston  
United States Senator

Please reply to:

Suite 1010 Hale Boggs Federal Building  
501 Magazine Street  
New Orleans, LA 70130

February 3, 1993

The Honorable J. Bennett Johnson  
501 Magazine Street  
New Orleans, LA 70115

Dear Senator Johnson,

A very important past times of mine is building and flying model airplanes. My interest began in aviation at a very young age, almost at birth. My father's interest began before I was born. Now my son has an interest, so this is three generations of modeling. I was married in 1969 and my wife joined the ranks of model aviators.

In 1971 we were involved in Radio Control aircraft. We became members of the Academy of Model Aviation. We became members of the Chalmette Radio Control Club, a local modeling club in the area. Now, my son, my father, my intended son-in-law and I belong to the Saint Bernard AeroSpace Club. We have a rather large investment in our hobby and a deep concern of how long it will exist.

Our current concern is with the proposed rules under consideration by the F.C.C., to which I refer is the P. R. Docket 92-235. The new rules if adopted would greatly reduce the usability of frequencies currently assigned for model use, increase the risk of accidents, and attendant liability for controlling model aircraft.

The frequencies used by modelers are 72 MHz - 76 MHz bands. This band is primarily used for private land mobile dispatch operators. However, our radio control frequencies in this band are far enough apart from the land mobile frequencies that we have shared the band without either user interfering with the other...

participate in competition and there are many more spectators present.

~~I do believe communication is most important~~

February 3, 1993

The Honorable J. Bennett Johnson  
501 Magazine Street  
New Orleans, LA 70115

Dear Senator Johnson,

My concerns with your proposed rules change "PR Docket,"- which if implemented will greatly interfere with my only pastime. If adopted, the new rules currently assigned for model use will increase the risk of accident and attendant liability for controlling model aircraft.

Something about myself, I am a retired businessman from the auto repair industry. I am 68 years old, I began modeling after

# Congressional

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AND REPLY FOR DOCKET FILE, ROOM 222.

CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING SYSTEM  
03/02/93

## LETTER REPORT

CONTROL NO.	DATE RECEIVED	DATE OF CORRESP	DATE DUE	DATE DUE OLA(857)
9300975	03/02/93	02/10/93	03/22/93	

TITLE	MEMBERS NAME	REPLY FOR SIG OF
Senator	J Bennett Johnston	BC

CONSTITUENT'S NAME	SUBJECT
	inq. comments on PR Docket 92-235

REF TO	REF TO	REF TO	REF TO
PRB/LM			
3-3-93			
DATE	DATE	DATE	DATE
03/02/93			

REMARKS: Respond to the New Orleans, LA office.

J. BENNETT JOHNSTON  
LOUISIANA

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1802

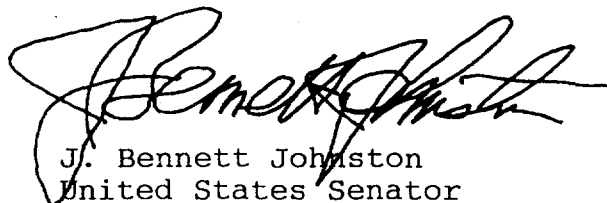
PRB  
92-235  
975

February 10, 1993

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1919 M Street N.W.  
Room 808  
Washington, DC 20554

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Sincerely,



J. Bennett Johnston  
United States Senator

Please reply to:

Suite 1010 Hale Boggs Federal Building  
501 Magazine Street  
New Orleans, LA 70130

The Honorable

J. BENNETT JOHNSTON

I have been interested in aviation since I was a child. I am extremely active in two local clubs whose members enjoy construction and operating radio controlled model airplanes and helicopters. There are approximately 200 model aviators involved in these two local clubs.

I am very concerned about proposed rules that are currently under consideration by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The proceeding is PR Docket 92-235. If adopted, the new rules will greatly reduce the usability of frequencies currently assigned for model use and increase the risk of accidents and attendant liability for controlling model airplanes and helicopters.

Our radio control frequencies are in the 72 - 76 MHz band. This band is primarily used for private land mobile dispatch operations. However, our radio control frequencies in this band are presently far enough apart from the land mobile frequencies that we have been able to share the band without either use interfering with the other.

Now the FCC wants to create more land mobile frequencies by splitting them into narrower bandwidths and rearranging the band plan. As a result, many land mobile frequencies will move closer to the radio control frequencies and cause interference to radio control of model airplanes and helicopters, only 19 frequencies will be left if these new rules are adopted.

When we fly our model airplanes under radio control, we go to great lengths to assure the safety of the operators and bystanders and the protection of property. Many of our safety precautions involve the careful coordination and use of the radio control frequencies. If the number of usable frequencies is diminished as proposed by the FCC, the remaining frequencies will become congested and the margin of safety will be greatly decreased.

Please understand that many model airplanes have wing spans up to 10 feet and weigh as much as 30 or 40 pounds. The models themselves are expensive to build; but more to the point, they are capable of causing property damage, serious injury, or even death if radio interference cause the operator to lose control of the craft. I have models that weigh 10 pounds and achieve speeds in excess of 120 miles per hour, you must realize the potential for disaster if my radio control link is interfered with. We often fly our models at ~~various events and contests where hundreds of spectators~~

I do not think it is wise of the FCC to seek to improve the operating conditions of land mobile radio users at the expense of radio control modelers. The FCC may not think we are as important as business users of radios, but we have a considerable investment in our models and in our radio equipment. I personally have six radio control transmitters that were quite an expense to purchase and has taken years to accumulate. The hobby provides many hours of enjoyment to thousands of people like myself and contributes to the advancement and development of the commercial aviation industry.

Please help me continue the safe enjoyment of my pastime by not allowing the FCC to carry out its proposals for the 72-76 MHz band.

Sincerely,

H. W. Armstrong Jr

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "H. Wayne Armstrong". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name.